

I

MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1968

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health
A. N. O'Brien, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
(Appointed 1st October, 1968)
D. R. McCauly, B.A., M.D., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.
(Resigned August, 1968)

Chief Public Health Inspector
A. Sandbrook, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector
A. Kinnersley, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector
W. Pye, M.A.P.H.I.

Meat Inspector
W. Sparkes, A.R.S.H.

Typist/Clerks
Miss E. Jennings
Miss M. E. Roberts

-oo000oo-

I N D E X

	<u>Page</u> <u>Number</u>
FOREWORD	1 - 2
SECTION A - General Statistics	3
Vital Statistics	3
Table I - Live Births	3
Table II - Still Births	3
Table III - Deaths	3
Table IV - Infant Mortality	4
Table V - Neonatal Mortality	4
Table VI - Perinatal Mortality	4
SECTION B - Health Services for the Area	5
SECTION C - Epidemiology	6
Table I - Notifications of Infectious Disease	6
Table II - Measles	6 - 7
Deaths from All Causes	7
Table I	7
Table II	8 - 9
Table III	10
REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR	11
Sanitary Circumstances, Water, Sewers and Sewerage	11 - 12
Refuse Collection and Disposal	12
Pest Control	12 - 13
Food Premises, Food Control, Slaughterhouses	13,14,15, 16,17
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	17 - 18
Civic Amenities Act, 1967	18
Factories Act, 1961	19
Clean Air Act, 1956	20
Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963	20
Pet Animals Act, 1951	20
Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1960	20
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	20
Swimming Baths	20
Housing Acts and Public Health Acts	20 - 21
Improvement Grants	21
Health Problems in Agricultural Areas	22



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29789333>

Public Health Department,
Smithfield Road,
Market Drayton,
Shropshire.

MARKET DRAYTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, 1968

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1968. Dr. D. R. McCaully left the service of the Council in July to take up another appointment, so that the work of the Department described in this Report refers to a period of time prior to my appointment.

The mid-year estimation of the population of the Rural District, made by the Registrar General was 16,850.

The total number of births was 312, of which 308 were Live Births and 4 were Still Births. 14 Births or 4.5% of the total were illegitimate. In the section on Vital Statistics, these figures are expressed in ratio to the population and compared with the figures for England and Wales.

During 1968, 194 deaths occurred and in the report I have shown a breakdown of this figure into causes of death and the age and sex incidence of them.

Heart disease in one form or another is the greatest killer and like cancer of the lung is the end result of what has been, in many cases, a long process of injury. It is sad to relate that in many instances the injury is self-inflicted, the pathological process occurring in response to the insults we give the heart, circulatory and respiratory systems by an over-indulgence in food and tobacco and a lack of sufficient exercise. No doubt the stresses of modern life play an important part, but we still have some choice in how we control our personal environment. The public environment has been made relatively safe by the control of epidemic infectious disease, but the increasing cost of lives lost yearly through diseases in which preventable influences are at work must make us all think seriously about the methods we use to deal with these factors.

Deaths from Cancer again show an increase of eight to a total of thirty-five deaths in 1968, due to all forms of cancer. Nine of these were due to Cancer of the lung and bronchus. In spite of indisputable evidence showing the connection between cigarette smoking and lung cancer there is no slackening off in the sales of cigarettes. When school children aged 12 years and older are asked to give their reasons for starting to smoke, they say they did so out of curiosity. Their reasons for continuing to smoke are much more serious and all too often involve the example set by parents and teachers.

Health Education, an important part of the daily work of the Public Health Department, is essential in promoting health. Necessary but unpopular regulations imposed by law can be made more acceptable when an explanation is given of the principles on which they are based, as for example Food Hygiene Regulations. Modern methods of prevention such as vaccination and immunisation as well as the provision of a clean water supply, adequate sewage disposal and good housing have all helped in reducing epidemic disease to negligible proportions, but more education is needed in those areas of chronic disease where personal attitudes and habits need to be changed.

In May 1968 vaccination to protect all children susceptible to measles was introduced into the County immunisation programme and since then large numbers of children aged 1 to 15 years have received one dose of measles vaccine. Measles is a disease which, though not often fatal in this Country, has grave complications including pneumonia, middle ear disease and encephalitis. It occurs annually, with a much bigger epidemic every second year. At the time of writing this report there is evidence to show a remarkable reduction in the expected incidence of the disease during the winter months of 1968/1969. Notifications of other infectious diseases have been received and include one case of respiratory Tuberculosis and one case of Malaria, each contracted while serving abroad by members of the Forces.

In concluding this introduction to the report may I express my thanks to Mr. Sandbrook, Chief Public Health Inspector and to all the staff of the Department for the helpful co-operation I have enjoyed.

I am, your obedient servant,

(A. N. O'Brien)
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION AGeneral Statistics

Area at 31st December, 1968	..	..	..	..	56,383 acres.
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	£542,779
Sum represented by the penny rate (estimated for year)	..	..	..	..	£2,153
Registrar General's estimate of resident population as at 30th June, 1968	..	..	..	..	16,850
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	..	..	5,315

Vital Statistics

TABLE I

LIVE BIRTHS		M.	F.	Rates per 1000 estimated population	
				Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	308	171	137	18.3	16.9
Legitimate	294	163	131	17.4	
Illegitimate	14	8	6	.83	

Area Comparability Factor	..	..	0.99
Corrected Birth Rate	..	..	18.1 per 1000 population
Illegitimacy Rate per 1000 total live births	..	..	45.4
Illegitimate Births expressed as rate per 1000 of the population	..	..	0.83 per 1000 population

TABLE II

STILL BIRTHS		M.	F.	Rates per 1000 Live and Still Births	
				Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	4	4	-	13	14
Legitimate	3	3	-	9.6	
Illegitimate	1	1	-	3.2	

TABLE III

DEATHS		M.	F.	Rates per 1000 estimated population	
				Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	194	94	100	11.5 crude 12.9 corrected	11.9

Area Comparability Factor .. 1.06

TABLE IV

INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under one year of age)		M.	F.	Rates per 1000 related Live Births	
				Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	6	1	5	19	18
Legitimate	6	1	5	19	
Illegitimate	-	-	-		

TABLE V

NEONATAL MORTALITY (deaths of infants 1 - 4 weeks of age)		M.	F.	Rates per 1000 related Live Births	
				Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	2	-	2	6.5	12.3
Legitimate		-	2		
Illegitimate		-	-		

TABLE VI

PERINATAL MORTALITY (stillbirths and deaths of infants under 1 week of age)		M.	F.	Rates per 1000 related Live & Still Births	
				Market Drayton R.D.C.	England & Wales
Total	5	4	1	16.0	25
Legitimate	4	3	1		
Illegitimate	1	1	0		

There were no Maternal Deaths reported for 1968. Nationally a steady decline in deaths from the complications of pregnancy and childbirth attests to the steady improvement in the care of women during pregnancy, at delivery and during the puerperium. In earlier years such causes as haemorrhage, infection and toxæmia were of paramount importance and were associated with inadequate ante-natal or post-natal care. Nowadays the significant factors are those concerned with age and parity and with occupation and social status and with the place of confinement in selected cases.

SECTION BHealth Services for the Area.Services Provided by the Salop County Council

Under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Salop County Council as Local Health Authority provides a number of personal health services, among which are the Ambulance Service; Health Visiting; District Home Nursing and Midwifery Services and the Domestic Home Help Scheme.

A number of special clinical sessions are held at the Child Health Centre, Longslow Road, Market Drayton, and these include:-

Child Health	Wednesdays	9.30am-12.30pm 1.30pm-4.30pm
Immunisations	2nd & 4th Wednesdays	9.30am-12noon
Chiropody	By Appointment	
Dental	Every morning by appointment	
Domestic Help	Monday, Wednesday and Friday	2pm-5pm
Probation Reporting Centre	Alternate Tuesdays 4th Thursdays	5pm-8pm 4pm-7pm
Psychiatric	1st, 3rd & 5th Fridays	2pm onwards
Speech Therapy	Fridays	12 noon-12.30pm 1.45pm-5pm
Cervical Cytology	By appointment	
Audiology	By appointment	
Welfare Foods	Wednesdays Saturdays	10am-12noon & 2.15pm-4.15pm 10am-12noon

Vaccination and Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Smallpox, Poliomyelitis and Measles is offered to children from the age of 6 months onwards and is carried out by General Practitioners or by Medical Officers at Child Health Centres. Booster doses are given to school children at the appropriate age and they are also offered protection against Tuberculosis by B.C.G. Vaccination.

Travellers abroad who require Yellow Fever inoculations may have this done by appointment in the County Health Department, The Shirehall, Shrewsbury. A charge is made for this service.

SECTION C

(A) Epidemiology

On 1st October, 1968, Part III of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 came into operation, and under this provisions are made for the notification of infectious diseases and food poisoning.

The infectious diseases now to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health are as follows:-

Acute encephalitis; Acute meningitis; Acute poliomyelitis; Anthrax; Cholera; Diphtheria; Dysentery (amoebic or bacillary); Infective Jaundice; Leprosy; Leptospirosis; Malaria; Measles; Ophthalmia neonatorum; Paratyphoid fever; Plague; Relapsing fever; Scarlet Fever; Smallpox; Tetanus; Tuberculosis; Typhoid Fever; Typhus; Whooping Cough; Yellow Fever and Food Poisoning.

Notification is no longer required for:-

Acute influenzal pneumonia; Acute primary pneumonia; Acute rheumatism; Erysipelas; Membranous croup; Puerperal pyrexia.

TABLE I

Infectious Diseases Notified during 1968

	Total	M.	F.
Measles	81	43	38
Meningitis	1	1	-
Dysentery	1	1	-
Infective Hepatitis	2	-	2
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	1	-	1
Non Pulmonary	1	-	1
Malaria	1	1	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	-	1

TABLE II

Measles by Age Incidence

	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-9	10-14	15-24	Total
1968	2	9	10	15	12	33	-	-	81
1967	15	20	21	26	22	68	2	2	171

Vaccination against Measles was introduced on a national scale in May, 1968. Immunisation consists of one injection of vaccine given intra muscularly. As children attending school are most liable to contract infectious diseases the vaccine was first made available to children aged 4 years to 7 years. But now supplies are such as to provide protection for all children at risk from 1 year to 15 years. Measles is a common disease in this Country reaching epidemic proportions every second year. It was to be expected that the winter months of 1968/1969 would show the usual biennial increase in notifications, but at the time of writing (May 1969) there is evidence to show that compared with the figures for 1967 there has been a marked decrease in notifications.

Although Measles in this Country is not a killing disease nevertheless many thousands of children annually suffer from complications such as Pneumonia, Bronchitis and Middle Ear Infections as well as several hundred who tragically develop an encephalitis.

It is with the aim of reducing the ill effects of such complications that parents are urged to have their children protected. Locally vaccination is carried out by Family Doctors or by Medical Officers of the Salop County Council at Child Health Centres.

Tuberculosis

Two new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during 1968 in adult women. There were no deaths notified from this disease.

Diseases of Animals

Notifications of disease in animals are received from the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and from local Veterinary Surgeons.

None of the cases of animal disease which occurred in 1968 resulted in infection in humans.

(B) Deaths in Market Drayton Rural District 1968

TABLE I

	Male	Female
All Causes	94	100
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	-	1
Meningococcal Infection	-	1
Syphitis and its Sequelae	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	2	1
Lung, Bronchus	6	3
Breast	-	1
Uterus	-	2
Leukaemia	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	8	11
Other Endocrine Diseases	-	1
Anaemias	1	-
Meningitis	1	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1
Hypertensive Disease	3	4
Ischaemic Heart Disease	38	21
Other forms of Heart Disease	3	9
Cerebro Vascular Disease	17	8
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	4	3
Pneumonia	1	6
Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	3
Asthma	-	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	2	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-
Other Diseases of Genito - Urinary system	-	1
Diseases of Musculo Skeletal System	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	1
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1
Symptoms and Ill-defined causes	-	1
Motor accidents	3	5
Other accidents	-	3
Suicide and self inflicted injuries	-	4
All other external causes	1	-

Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life during 1968.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks under 1 yr.	1+	5+	15+	25+	35+	45+	55+	65+	75 & over
Enteritis & Diarrhoeal Disease	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syphilis and its sequelae	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Lung Bronchus	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	2	-
Breast	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Uterus	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Leukaemia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	19	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	9	4	3
Other Endocrine Diseases	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Anaemias	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Meningitis	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Hypertensive Disease	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	5
Ischaemic Heart Disease	59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	9	20	26
Other Forms of Heart Disease	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	9

Cerebrovascular	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	17
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5
Pneumonia	7	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Bronchitis & Emphysema	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Asthma	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Peptic Ulcer	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Genito-Urinary Diseases	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Musculo-Skeletal	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ill-defined Conditions	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	8	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	-
All other accidents	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Suicide and self inflicted injuries	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
All other External Causes	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

TABLE III

CAUSES OF DEATH IN NUMERICAL ORDER OF FREQUENCY		Male	Female	Total
1. HEART DISEASE	Coronary Disease Angina	38	21	59
	Hypertension with Heart Disease	3	4	7
	Other Heart Disease	3	10	13
2. CANCER	Malignant Neoplasms Stomach	2	1	3
	Lung Bronchus	6	3	9
	Breast	-	1	1
	Uterus	-	2	2
	Leukaemia	-	1	1
	Others	8	11	19
3. CEREBRO VASCULAR DISEASE	Vascular Lesions of Brain and Nervous System	17	8	25
4. RESPIRATORY DISEASE	Pneumonia	1	6	7
	Bronchitis & Emphysema	1	3	4
	Asthma	-	1	1
	Others	1	1	2

Coronary Artery Disease again accounts for the highest number of deaths i.e. 30% of total deaths from all causes.

Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus caused the death of nine patients, six men and three women and this is an increase of three over the figure for 1967.

Many factors which are harmful to health are known to be preventable. Obesity, lack of exercise and an excessive use of tobacco have serious and in some cases lethal consequences. The annual toll of deaths from heart disease, cancer of the lung and bronchus and other respiratory disorders is increasing. It is not enough to have this knowledge; it must be applied, and not only by those responsible for providing health services. The public also has a duty to safeguard the public health and need to be told so, if the tremendous cost of health and welfare services is to be controlled.

MR. SANDBROOK, CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR, REPORTS -SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

The East Shropshire Water Board supplies what is one of the cheapest essentials to healthy living - a pure water supply. This to a population estimated at 13,610. Bulk supplies are taken from the Ministry of Defence in respect of Tern Hill and Stoke Heath (with an arrangement to boost the supply to Market Drayton), from the Mid and East Cheshire Board's sources to Norton in Hales, Woore and Bearstone.

A further source is from several private supply schemes - the remainder coming from boreholes and wells attached to individual properties. The new borehole at Shiffords Grange Bridge, whilst not producing entirely what it was hoped it would yield, is to be put into service to supplement Market Drayton's increasing demand.

Total number of houses in District	5315
Number of houses supplied from public mains direct to house ..	4592
Number of houses supplied from public mains by means of	
stand pipes	40
Number of houses supplied from private mains direct to house)	
Number of houses supplied from private mains by means of)	52
stand pipes	
Number of houses supplied from wells, streams, pumps, etc. ..	631

Houses - Connections made in 1968 to the public mains

		<u>New</u>	<u>Existing</u>
Connections from public mains, i.e. premises charged			
with water rate	(a) Private	92	6
	(b) Council Houses	117	8

The following figures refer to the results of water samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Salop Infirmary -

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
1. Public mains	18	-
2. Private mains	6	8
3. Wells and boreholes	4	6

Two chemical samples from a private Council's mains supply were satisfactory.

Sampling of their own water supplies is regularly undertaken by the East Shropshire Water Board with whom close liason exists.

Emptying of Septic Tanks and Cesspools

The Surveyor's Department continues to give an increasing service in emptying the private septic tanks in the district, besides removing sludge from the many small Council Housing Site plants. A site for the disposal of the sludge gives rise to problems and negotiations are afoot for the acquisition and adaptation of a more suitable location.

Number of houses in district	5315
Number of houses connected to sewage disposal works owned by Local Authority	3202
Number of houses connected to satisfactory private sewage disposal or treatment plants	1292
Number of houses without satisfactory means of sewerage	821
Number of sewage disposal works owned by District Council	7
Number of houses using chemical, pail, earth or privy closets (a) with proper means of disposal ..	821
(b) without proper means of disposal	nil
Number of houses where Local Authority collect night soil	nil
Number of sewerage effluent samples analysed during the year ending 31.12.68. - Satisfactory	18
Unsatisfactory	3

Refuse Collection and Disposal During 1968

Early in the year, the collection service in the former Rural District was re-organised. A weekly collection is now made, and the number of vehicles used reduced from 3 to 2. An unusual feature of the rural area collection, is the collection of refuse from 200 isolated dwellings on one day per week by using a driver and one collector in each vehicle. This leaves the remaining collectors free for other work. The town area, where 2,600 paper sack holders have been issued, continues to receive a weekly collection. One vehicle is used on this area.

Cardboard and paper is collected from shops by a private contractor.

The number of tips has been reduced to two, one at Lostford and one at Calverhall.

Fifty houses in the rural area are using paper or polythene sacks as bin liners. While the experiment has been a success it has not yet been decided which make of sack to use.

Rodent Control

The work of the Rodent Operator is divided between the mouse infestation of home premises and schools, with particular attention to food premises, and agricultural infestations, which involve rats chiefly. The latter are subject to seasonal migration, coming in out of the hedge banks where they have spent the summer living on grain spilt during harvesting to live during the winter on stored fodder, potatoes and other attractive foods. The extent of the work ultimately involved cannot be estimated when one receives a complaint - to prevent re-infestation the reservoir of infestation has to be sought out and eliminated. This can take the operator far afield and result in many inspections and treatments.

Fortunately so far, there has been no indication that there are any Warfarin - resistant rats in the area, let us hope that the efforts being made to contain such rats within the existing area, will be successful. However, apart from the existing chemical poisons, there are poisons being developed which will deal with these 'super-rats' which, unfortunately, they have been called.

The sewers throughout the district were test baited and treated for rats. No repeated infestations were evident and generally the sewers are free from serious infestation.

The summary rendered to the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food is as follows:-

Properties other than sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. No. of properties in district	3984	795
2a. Total No. of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	199	36
b. No. infested by (i) Rats	126	36
(ii) Mice	4	-
3a. Total No. of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	63	2
b. No. infested by (i) Rats	18	-
(ii) Mice	1	-

Pests and Infestations

From time to time the Department has dealt with complaints of ants, flies, fleas, silver fish, millipedes and the like.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

Apart from two country slaughterhouses which buy and slaughter a high standard of animal, we have the abattoir operated by Palethorpes in Market Drayton.

The effects of the restrictions caused by the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak were felt until well into the year. The results of having to find animals to slaughter from sources other than ordinary suppliers resulted in diminished killing and an increase in the percentage of portions of animals condemned.

No. of slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
No. of Knackers Yards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
No. of persons licensed to slaughter cattle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
No. of persons licensed to slaughter horses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
No. of persons licensed to slaughter pigs and sheep	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19

Carcases inspected and condemned

	Cattle excdg. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed	425	15	-	1525	22267
No. NOT inspected	-	-	-	-	-
<u>All diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	-	24
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	49	6	-	40	7500
	11.7%	40%	-	2.6%	33.7%
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	721
					3.2%
<u>Cysticerci</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
	0.2%				

Unsound Food Surrendered or Condemned

The following foodstuffs were surrendered during the year:-

	Tons	Cwts.	lbs.
Meat at slaughterhouses	27	13	31
Meat at retail shops			30
Canned meats		1	1
Other canned foods		2	17
Fish (fresh)			72
Other foods			106
Total	27	18	33

There was no action under the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966, but action was taken under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960 when a cafe owner was prosecuted under Part 2 and Part 4 on eight counts, resulting in a fine of £24. The premises closed down and are at the time of writing still closed.

Bacteriological Sampling

There were four samples of cream and two of milk taken, all proved satisfactory.

Routine inspection of food premises has been carried out. Details are as follows:-

Trade	No. of Premises	No. provided with	
		Wash hand Basin	Sink
Bakeries	7	7	7
Butchers Shops	16	16	16
Cafes	10	10	10
Fish and Chips	3	3	3
General Grocers	35	31	30
Mixed business	25	18	18
Total	96	85	84

A total of 180 inspections were made.

The number of food premises, by type, registered under Section 16, of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, is as follows:-

Storage and Sale of Ice Cream 69

Preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted,
pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale .. 23

There were 4 dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1959, one of which contains a Pasteurising Plant.

The Salop County Council are the Foods and Drugs Authority for the area and details of their sampling activities and the results of action taken are appended. The complaints, supported by the remaining portion of the offending food, are brought to the Public Health Department of the Market Drayton Rural District Council.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955Milk

	<u>No. of Samples</u>			
Pasteurised	..	..	..	12
Channel Islands Pasteurised ..	..	..	..	12
Untreated Channel Island ..	..	..	..	7
Untreated Farm Bottled ..	..	..	..	3
Sterilised	..	..	..	3
Bulk Milk exfarm	..	..	..	50

A sample of Channel Islands pasteurised milk was found to contain penicillin. A warning letter was sent to the firm concerned.

Other Food and Drugs - Samples taken

Pears	1	Peach Wine	1
Dried Fruit Salad	1	Children's Aspirin	1
Salad Oil	1	Bitter Beer	1
Coffee & Chicory Essence ..	1	Baby Rice	1
Aspirin Tablets	1	Slimming Food	1
Percutaneous Analgesic Gel ..	1	"Zett" Jam Set	1
Glycerin Lemon Juice & Honey	1	Canned Steak & Kidney pie ..	1
Antiseptic Cream	1	Cheddar Cheese	1
Apricot Jam	1	Cough Syrup	1
Condensed Milk	1	Cornish Pasties	1
Rilchoc Compound Block ..	1	Wine Sweetener	1
Butter	1	Throat Lozenges	1
Crispbread	1	Food Flavour	1
Travel Sickness Tablets ..	1	White Pepper	1
Codine Tablets B.P.	1	Tea	1
Malted Milk Biscuits	2	Sage & Onion Stuffing ..	1

Total 33

1 Sample of Baby Rice was found to be infested with insects. Legal proceedings were instituted against the vendors.

1 Sample of Slimming Food did not conform to the Labelling of Food Order 1953. The manufacturers stated that they were obtaining new labels.

1 Sample of Jam Set was found to be genuine in composition but if the directions were followed, the jam would be liable to mould. It was found that this was old stock (15 years old) and any remaining stock was withdrawn.

2 Samples of Malted Milk Biscuits were reported as containing no detectable quantity of milk solids. As deliberations had been taking place between the trade and other interests, and the Ministry regarding standards for biscuits, the Clerk of the Council advised that no further action be taken.

In addition to the above a carton of Yoghourt was found to be mouldy. Legal proceedings were instituted against the dairy retailing the same. The firm was found guilty but given an absolute discharge. The County Council were awarded £26.5.0. costs.

A tin of Sliced Peaches was found to contain a piece of metal.

Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Area) Order 1956

	Samples Obtained	Phosphatase Test	Methylene Blue Test			Turbidity Test Passed
			Passed	Failed	Void	
Pasteurised	46	46	42	1	3	-
Channel Islands Pasteurised	28	28	26	1	1	-
Sterilised	3	-	-	-	-	3
Untreated Farm Bottled	2	-	2	-	-	-

Warning letters were sent in respect of the Methylene Blue failures.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regs.1949-55

26 samples of milk were obtained from the Pasteurising establishment in the district. All proved to be satisfactory.

Poultry Slaughtering

There are no poultry slaughtering establishments in the area.

OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

A summary of inspections made under the above is given in the following tables. There were no applications for exemption received and no prosecutions were taken.

A. Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises regd. during the year.	No. of regd. premises at end of year.	No. of regd. premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	6	38	8
Retail shops	14	95	31
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	4	1
Catering establish- ments open to the public, canteens.	1	16	4
Fuel storage depots	-	1	-
Totals	21	154	44

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act 126

B. Analysis of Contraventions

Section	Number of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	44
5	Overcrowding	-
6	Temperature	25
7	Ventilation	12
8	Lighting	35
9	Sanitary Conveniences	28
10	Washing facilities	20
11	Supply of drinking water	2
12	Clothing accommodation	5
13	Sitting facilities	-
14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	1
15	Eating facilities	2
16	Floors, passage and stairs	55
17	Fencing exposed parts machinery	19
18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-
23	Prohibition of heavy work	-
24	First aid	26
	Other matters	34
	Total	308

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

10 visits were made.

PREScribed PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	1	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Sec.7 is enforced by Local Authority	60	24	7	-
3. Other Premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	61	24	7	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

	No.of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation(S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences(S.7)					
a. Insufficient	2	3	-	-	-
b. Unsuitable or defective	6	2	-	2	-
c. Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	4	-	4	-	-
Total	12	5	4	2	-

No outworkers have been notified under the Act, Section 133 and 134. There have been no large factories notified by the Factory Inspector as being registered. The number of new registrations is 2 and the number deleted is 3.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Contraventions regarding the emission of dark and black smoke were observed on three occasions. Adjustments to the plant were made to remedy the position.

Regarding the height of chimneys, plans were submitted showing the installation of new chimneys in two cases and alterations were required to one chimney. Two were approved.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT AND THE PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Licences exist for one establishment under each of the above.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

At the 31st December, 1968, there were licences issued for 31 individual caravans for residential use and 2 for holiday use. All were privately owned. One licence was issued for residential use of a site of 46 caravans. Whilst two were for the holiday use of 40 and 20 caravans respectively. There are no local authority sites.

Under Section 9 there were 13 contraventions of which 10 were remedied informally. There were no prosecutions or convictions.

There are no permanent sites for gypsies and itinerants in operation, this matter being considered at the present time by the County Council.

The Council has in its area Hatton Common on which, by Order, it is an offence to station a caravan. The number of visits and inspections made was 104.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Five complaints have been received. Three nuisances were confirmed - two industrial and one commercial.

All were remedied informally.

SWIMMING BATHS

The Council owned outdoor Swimming Bath and Paddling Pool forms one of the major attractions to the town in the summer months when the local schools have regular bookings. To check the efficiency of the chlorination plant three samples were taken and proved satisfactory.

HOUSING ACTS, 1957 and 1961, and PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

There is estimated to be 5315 houses in the district of which 1405 belong to the Local Authority. During the year, 25 houses were demolished and 19 unfit houses were closed. Three unfit houses were made fit.

Notice under the Public Health Act was served regarding one property and the house was made fit. A total of 906 inspections were made under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

During the year 95 houses were erected by the Council and 68 by private enterprise. At the end of the year the Council were not building any houses, whilst private enterprise had 93 in the course of erection. Post war houses erected from 1st April, 1945 to 31st December, 1968 by the Council and by private enterprise respectively are, 987 and 834. One Council House was sold during the year. On the Housing Application list at the end of the year were 153 names.

OVERCROWDING

At 31st December, 1968, one house was known to be overcrowded and no overcrowded families were rehoused during the year.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The Housing Act which was foreshadowed last year in a White Paper (Comnd. 3602) is still in its second reading in Parliament. The anticipated increase in the amounts of the grants resulted in a slackening up of applications and where work had not commenced on an approved grant - a marking time in the hopes of re-applying under the anticipated new legislation. However, as the time goes on with no Act appearing, the applications are once again (1969) rolling in.

In 1968, 18 properties were improved by a Standard Grant, an increase of 11 on last year, and 21 Discretionary Grants were given, an increase of 3 on the 1967 figure.

Summary

Discretionary Grants - Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 as amended.

(a) Number of dwellings in applications completed	
during year	21
(b) Average cost per dwelling completed on work ranking	
for grant	£1160.14.2.
(c) Amount of grant payable by Local Authority stated as %	33.81%
(d) Average cost per dwelling including repairs and	
improvements, etc.	£1467.14.2.

Standard Grants (Home Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, and Housing Act, 1964)

(a) Number of dwellings in applications completed	
during year	18
(b) Average amount of grant per dwelling paid by Council	£227.15.5.

The number of visits to properties proposed to be or being improved was 246.

HEALTH PROBLEMS IN AGRICULTURAL AREAS

The public health problems associated with agriculture are not widely known or appreciated, so that it is difficult to assess the public health implications. However, help could come from many sources, for example a veterinary surgeon, family doctor or public health officer.

These problems can be divided into those directly associated with diseases such as brucellosis and salmonellosis and those which may be considered a statutory nuisance within the meaning of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The true incidence of brucellosis is not known, because of difficulties in diagnosis and it is probable that subclinical cases occur where medical help is not sought.

The incidence is higher among veterinary surgeons, farmers, agricultural workers, meat inspectors and slaughtermen, who often handle cattle affected with *B abortus*, pigs with *B suis* and goats and sometimes rams with *B melitensis*. To the meat inspector, for example, these conditions in a carcass are often not visible. Cases have occurred among those living on farms, who were known to drink infected raw milk. Dalrymple-Champneys (1953) found that, of 1,134 cases of brucellosis, 780 patients were known to be in contact with raw milk or cream. The farmer and his employees are obviously at real risk of contracting this disease, but it is difficult to convince them of this hazard to health when, for many years, they may have drunk raw milk from the dairy without apparent harm.

Clinical tuberculosis in man contracted from drinking raw milk is now rare in this area.

Outbreaks of salmonellosis are nearly always caused by *Salmonella dublin* occurring in calves recently brought on to the farm from market. The occurrence of salmonella on farms where calves are reared is far less common. The infection is obviously associated with animals being closely confined in a cattle truck or market stall. We have also experienced outbreaks among pigs and chickens. When salmonella occurs among farm animals it appears to be common for those coming into contact with these animals to become infected, frozen poultry being one source.

Anthrax is not a frequent occurrence but occasionally a number of cases are notified over a short period. Such an outbreak is perhaps compatible with simultaneous delivery of a contaminated animal feed to a number of farms.

Ring worm is a common occurrence among school children in country districts and is usually caused by trichophyton. The disease is known to have a low incidence in milk cows and to be more commonly found in calves. It seems probable that, with the increasing practise of intensive calf rearing, this mycotic infection will increase in animals and subsequently in man. Fortunately it is a condition which responds well to treatment.

Perhaps the most common nuisance arises from the keeping of swine. Complaints in this connection are received regarding fly, smell and manurial nuisances. The most difficult to deal with is the manure heap, for pig excrement is notorious, and most local authorities will not accept it into their sewers as a trade effluent.

Manure disposal is also a problem for those farmers engaged in intensive poultry breeding, and large offensive manure heaps in the vicinity of chicken houses can cause trouble. In order to deal successfully with manure disposal, expensive storage tanks and land irrigation appear to be the solution, unless the intensive farming unit is large enough to warrant the installation of a manure-drying plant. It is very difficult not to cause annoyance when spraying manurial liquid on fields owing to the vagaries of the weather.

The effluent from silage pits can become a major problem when farmers merely discharge this thick, evil-smelling liquor into the nearest ditch. The ditch will probably communicate with a nearby river, and it is not unusual in these circumstances for several miles of a river to become polluted. One answer to the problem is the provision of a silage effluent tank, but it is not unknown for these to overflow.

Noise from grain-drying plants, silo feeding mechanisms, etc. as farms become modernised, is also the subject of complaints. These noise nuisances offend the country dweller, who is often a farm worker, but he rarely complains of smell, fly or manurial nuisances for he has probably lived all his life in close proximity to these problems.

Urbanisation of the countryside has resulted in the town dweller coming to live in rural areas, and it is he who complains of the smell and flies. However, the countryside should provide 'pure' air and pleasant views, so every effort must be made to prevent odour, fly, pest, manurial and effluent nuisances.

If intensive farming is to be a success, the farmer must take every precaution to counteract diseases and nuisances. We have not considered a number of diseases which do not commonly occur such as leptospirosis, rickettsias, coccidiosis and echinococcosis, but we have discussed the public health problems associated with agriculture in relation to brucellosis, tuberculosis, salmonellosis, anthrax, skin diseases and statutory nuisances.

Before concluding my report I wish to pay respect to my Staff for their team work which has enabled the making of this summary of the year's work in the Public Health Department to be a worthwhile task. For the first 7 months of 1968 we had the guidance and support of Dr. McCauley, who is now Medical Officer of Health with Redditch, and for the last 3 months that of our present Medical Officer of Health, Dr. O'Brien, to whose Report I trust this contribution will be of worth.

